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### [1. S5.04: Spacecraft Technology for Sample Return Missions](#)

Release Date: 07-18-2011Open Date: 07-18-2011Due Date: 09-08-2011Close Date: 09-08-2011

NASA plans to perform sample return missions from a variety of targets including Mars, outer planet moons, and small bodies such as asteroids and comets. In terms of spacecraft technology, these types of targets present a variety challenges. Some targets, such as Mars and some moons, have relatively large gravity wells and will require ascent propulsion. Other targets are small bodies with very complex geography and very little gravity, which present difficult navigational and maneuvering challenges.

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### [2. S5.05: Extreme Environments Technology](#)

Release Date: 07-18-2011Open Date: 07-18-2011Due Date: 09-08-2011Close Date: 09-08-2011

High-Temperature, High-Pressure, and Chemically-Corrosive Environments

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### [3. S5.06: Planetary Protection](#)

Release Date: 07-18-2011Open Date: 07-18-2011Due Date: 09-08-2011Close Date: 09-08-2011

Technologies intended for use at/around Mars, Europa (Jupiter), and Enceladus (Saturn) must be developed so as to ensure compliance with relevant planetary protection requirements. NASA seeks innovative technologies to facilitate meeting Forward and Backward Contamination Planetary Protection objectives especially for a potential Mars Sample Return (MSR) mission and to facilitate Forward Planetary Protection implementation for a potential mission to Europa.

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#### **4. [S6: Information Technologies](#)**

Release Date: 07-18-2011 Open Date: 07-18-2011 Due Date: 09-08-2011 Close Date: 09-08-2011

NASA Missions and Programs create a wealth of science data and information that are essential to understanding our Earth, our solar system and the universe. Advancements in information technology will allow many people within and beyond the Agency to more effectively analyze and apply these data to create knowledge. In particular, modeling and simulation are being used more pervasively throughout NASA, for both engineering and science pursuits, than ever before.

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#### **5. [S6.01: Technologies for Large-Scale Numerical Simulation](#)**

Release Date: 07-18-2011 Open Date: 07-18-2011 Due Date: 09-08-2011 Close Date: 09-08-2011

NASA scientists and engineers are increasingly turning to large-scale numerical simulation on supercomputers to advance understanding of complex Earth and astrophysical systems, and to conduct high-fidelity aerospace engineering analyses. The goal of this subtopic is to increase the mission impact of NASA's investments in supercomputing systems and associated operations and services. Specific objectives are to:

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#### **6. [S6.02: Earth Science Applied Research and Decision Support](#)**

Release Date: 07-18-2011 Open Date: 07-18-2011 Due Date: 09-08-2011 Close Date: 09-08-2011

The NASA Applied Sciences Program (<http://nasascience.nasa.gov/earth-science/applied-sciences>) seeks innovative and unique approaches to increase the utilization and extend the benefit of Earth Science research data to better meet societal needs. One area of interest is new decision support tools and systems for a variety of ecological applications such as managing coastal environments, natural resources or responding to natural disasters.

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#### **7. [S6.03: Algorithms and Tools for Science Data Processing, Discovery and Analysis, in State-of-the-Art Data Environments](#)**

Release Date: 07-18-2011Open Date: 07-18-2011Due Date: 09-08-2011Close Date: 09-08-2011

This subtopic seeks technical innovation and unique approaches for the processing, discovery and analysis of data from NASA science missions. Advances in such algorithms will support science data analysis and decision support systems related to current and future missions, and will support mission concepts for:

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## **8. [S6.04: Integrated Mission Modeling for Opto-mechanical Systems](#)**

Release Date: 07-18-2011Open Date: 07-18-2011Due Date: 09-08-2011Close Date: 09-08-2011

NASA seeks innovative systems engineering modeling methodologies and tools to define, develop and execute future science missions, many of which are likely to feature designs and operational concepts that will pose significant challenges to existing approaches and applications. Specific areas of interest include the following:

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## **9. [S6.05: Fault Management Technologies](#)**

Release Date: 07-18-2011Open Date: 07-18-2011Due Date: 09-08-2011Close Date: 09-08-2011

As science missions are given increasingly complex goals and have more pressure to reduce operations costs, system autonomy increases. Fault Management (FM) is one of the key components of system autonomy. FM consists of the operational mitigations of spacecraft failures. It is implemented with spacecraft hardware, on-board autonomous software that controls hardware, software, information redundancy, and ground-based software and operations procedures.

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## **10. [T1: Center 2011 Technology Investments](#)**

Release Date: 07-18-2011Open Date: 07-18-2011Due Date: 09-08-2011Close Date: 09-08-2011

This year's STTR topic hosted by NASA Ames Research Center spans three technology investment areas at the center. These interests include: Synthetic Biology for Space Exploration, Commodity Based Technologies, and Information Technologies for Intelligent Planetary Robotics. Please see the subtopic descriptions for what is sought under each of these solicitations.

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